

Original manuscript - balance is same as delivered before written meeting at myrtle Beach on Jan. 24, 1950. J. Strom Thurmond Governor

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[1/27/50] (20-3)
ADDRESS BY J. STROM THURMOND, GOVERNOR OF SOUTH CAROLINA, AT EXCHANGE CLUB DISTRICT LADIES' NIGHT, ORANGEBURG, S.C., FRIDAY, JANUARY 27, 1950, 7:15 P.M.

President ^{Sen. Bryant & other members of the Legislative Delegation} McEnally, members of the Exchange Club, and Distinguished Guests:

It is always a pleasure to me to visit the City of Orangeburg, ^{one of the prettiest and finest cities in the State.} and I especially welcome the opportunity to meet with the Exchange Clubs of this ^{and} five neighboring cities of this beautiful section of our State.

The growth ~~and~~ extension of the Exchange Clubs to more than 1200 throughout the nation, with about 50 of those in South Carolina, is a wholesome sign of American progress. It is a good thing for our country when business men get together to work for the betterment of their community.

No finer ideals could bring men together in harmony than those which have inspired the Exchange Club from its beginning. Under its national motto, "Unity for Service," this organization has constantly encouraged the spirit of unselfishness, an ideal which enables a man to find the satisfaction that comes from giving himself in the service of his ~~community~~ fellowman, his community, and his nation.

It has been an inspiration to me to read the covenant of service to which Exchange Club members must pledge themselves the pledge of uplifting social, religious, political, and business ideals; the pledge of discharging one's debt to those whose sacrifices

have made possible the American heritage of citizenship; the pledge of respect for the laws, ideals, and institutions of our country; the pledge of ~~the~~ imparting the spirit of service and comradeship/in social and business relationships; and the pledge of unity with those who seek better conditions and greater opportunities for all.

The South needs that kind of service today. Conditions under which we live are changing so rapidly/that life has become a challenge to every southern citizen. (For the most part, conditions in the South are changing for the better, and we may look forward with confidence/to the most hopeful years the South has enjoyed since the War Between the States.)

✓ The fact is/that the South/is leading the nation in the march of progress. In the fields of agriculture and industry-- twin foundation stones of our economy-- the states from Maryland to Texas are gaining more rapidly than any other section of the country.

To make these achievements, the South has struggled upward against almost insurmountable obstacles. For many years after the War Between the States, our people were crushed and poverty-stricken. Their wealth and their economy had been wiped out by a tragic war, from which they sought to recover without the benefit of a Marshall Plan. In their effort to achieve prosperity, two major obstacles stood in their way-- one-sided tariff restrictions and